Amendments to the Specification

Please replace page 1 of the specification with the replacement pages 1 and 1A provided herein.

Please replace the paragraph that begins with "In the present specification, . . ." on page 12 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

In the present specification, the PPR motif is the "pentatricopeptide repeat" motif. This PPR motif is a motif structure of a novel protein found in the course of an Arabidopsis genome project. The base motif thereof is that a sequence of 35 degenerated amino acids is repeated in tandem on a primary structure of the protein. The PPR motif has the sequence represented by amino terminal (N terminal) "VTYNTL1SGYCKNGKLEEALELFEEMKEKG1KPOV" -carboxyl terminal (C terminal) as a consensus amino acid sequence. This motif is ~~the~~ that proposed by Small and Peeters (reference: Trends Biochem. Sci. 2000, 25 46-47). In the year of the publication of the reference, about 200 genes capable of having this motif in the Arabidopsis genome were registered to a gene bank such as GenBank (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/GenBank/index.html.) At present, possibility of presence of this motif structure in a certain protein can be easily determined by a program stored in Protein Families Database of Alignments and HMNs (hereafter abbreviated to Pfam; http://www.sanger.ac.uk/Software/Pfam/search.shtml) located in Sanger Institute, U.K.

Please replace the last paragraph that begins with "Specifically, the fertility restorer . . ." on page 15 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Specifically, the fertility restorer gene of the nucleotide sequence of the SEQ ID NO .2 is integrated in a vector for expression in a *Escherichia coli,* and a vector wherein 5' –UTR region and a coding region of 25 amino acids of *orf125* are fused to *lacZ* gene is integrated in the *Escherichia coli.* These vectors are subjected to induction expression, expression of *lacZ* gene is suppressed only in the case where the expression vector in which the fertility restorer gene has been integrated is present, and thereby blue colonies

of *Escherichia coli* ~~becomes~~ become white in the presence of X-Gal. As described above, it can be confirmed that, by using a gene encoding the protein of the present application and ~~performiong~~ performing the above-mentioned confirmation, the protein of the present invention has a function to restore the cytoplasmic male sterile individual from sterility to fertility by causing translation inhibition of the cytoplasmic male sterile gene.

Please replace the first new paragraph that begins with "The expression "the nucleotide sequence . . ." on page 20 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

The expression "the nucleotide sequence in which 1 or a plurality of nucleotides are deleted, added, and/or substituted" in this specification means the nucleotide sequence in which any number, ~~fow~~ for example from 1 to 20, preferably from 1 to 15, more preferably from 1 to 10, and further preferably from 1 to 5 of nucleotides are deleted, added, and/or substituted.

Please replace the paragraph that begins with "The expression "DNA which . . ." on page 20 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

The expression "DNA which hybridizes under a stringent condition" means the nucleotide sequence of DNA which is obtained using the DNA as a probe by colony hybridization method, plaque hybridization method, or Southern blot hybridization method. ~~Example~~ An example of such DNA is one which can be identified by using a filter prepared by fixing DNA or DNA fragment derived from a colony or a plaque, and performing hybridization at 65°C in the presence of 0.7 to 1.0 MNaCl followed by washing the filter using 0.1 to 2 x SSC solution (1 x SSC is composed of 150 mM sodium chloride and 15 mM sodium citrate) at 65°C.

Please replace the last paragraph that begins with "As the material for the measurement . . ." on page 23 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

As the material for the measurement of the genetic distance of the DNA marker from the *Rf* gene, for example, there can be used Fz population of some thousand

individuals which is obtained by self pollination of the radish F_1 generation produced by crossing of Kosena radish *(Raphanus sati vus* cv . Kosena) of the cms line with Yuanhong radish *(Raphanus sativus* cv. Yuanhong) of the *Rf* line according to the method described in N. Koizuka et al. (~~Teor.~~ Theor. Appl. Genet. 100 :949-955, 2000). Analysis of these populations allows isolation of the DNA markers with a linkage in a form sandwiching the *Rf* gene and located in a position with a distance of about 0.2 cM from both sides thereof. By this step, the genome map as shown in Fig. 1, which shows the genetic distance of the marker from the *Rf* gene can be prepared.

Please replace the second-to-last paragraph that begins with "The genes of the present invention . . ." on page 26 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

The genes of the present invention which ~~was~~ were isolated on the basis of the nucleotide sequence presumed by the techniques as described above are exemplified by DNA of SEQ ID NO.2, SEQ 1D NO.16, and SEQ ID NO.18. Thus, on the basis of the DNA sequence, cDNA can be easily isolated from other plant origin by common genetic engineering technique.

Please replace the last paragraph that begins with "The homologues of the gene means . . ." on page 28 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

The homologues of the gene means a series of related genes which have a sequence homology with the gene (or a gene product thereof) of the present invention and are recognized as a gene family on the basis of a similarity of a structural feature as described above and a biological function thereof As described above. An allele of these ~~gene~~ genes is included.

Please replace the second paragraph that begins with "Among the DNA of the present invention, . . ." on page 30 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Among the DNA of the present invention, particularly the ~~followings~~ following can be prepared by any method known to those skilled in the art such as chemical synthesis, genetic engineering technique and mutagenesis:

Please replace the paragraph that begins with "The contents disclosed . . ." on page 49 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

The contents disclosed in each specification of Japanese Patent Application Nos. 2001-128008, 2001-202082 and 2002-20083, ~~based~~ based on which the present application claims priorities, should be understood to be incorporated in the present specification by reference.

Please replace the paragraph that begins with "Lambda clone CHI . . ." on page 58 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Lambda clone CHI (see Fig. 2, Cloned fragment of length of about 17 kb) carrying enough of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ 10 NO.1 was cleaved with a restriction enzyme *NotI* (Takara) which is located in the multiple cloning site, and then separated from the vector by gel electrophoresis using agarose for collecting the fragment, and the collected fragment was cloned in the NotI site of the vector pBIGRZ2(Bioscience and Industry 55 (1997) 37-39) for plant transformation to prepare the vector CHI/pBIGRZ2 for plant transformation. The detail will be presented below.